

CLIENT-SERVER COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD USING A SEMI-CONNECTIONLESS PROTOCOL

Abstract of the Invention

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A system and method for performing client-server transactions includes an application interface, located at a client, which manages connections between the client and a server. The application interface receives a request from an application program, opens a connection with the server, sends a message that includes the request over the connection, and holds the connection open for at least a timeout period. If the application interface receives another request destined for the server during the timeout period, it sends another message with the new request over the open connection. If the application interface receives one or more requests that are part of a transaction, the application interface assigns a transaction identifier to the transaction. The transaction identifier and a sequence indicator are included in each message with each request. At the server, a transaction manager receives the messages, sequences the requests based on the sequence indicators, and processes the requests in the indicated sequence. If the application interface receives a redirect request from the server in response to a message, the application interface sends the message to another server identified in the redirect request without involving the client application.

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